

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Withdrawn)** A method for preparing liquid with the device of Claim 7, comprising the steps of preparing liquid and a material for liquid preparing at the beginning; obtaining a prepared liquid at the end; and the following steps of:

(1.1) distillation and absorption, which comprises heating said material for liquid preparation by steam with high temperature to release the volatile substances and soluble substances when the steam is delivered to a sealed space with an outlet at the bottom thereof and mixing the steam with the volatile substances and forcing the mixture out from the outlet to be dissolved and absorbed in the liquid.

(1.2) immersion, which comprises dissolving the soluble substances in the step (1.1) in the liquid which is pressed into the sealed space through the outlet or a defined inlet due to an air pressure difference created when stopping to deliver the steam with high temperature to the sealed space so as to allow the steam in the sealed space to cool down to water so that an air pressure in the sealed space becomes negative with respect to outside of the sealed space; and

(1.3) repetition, which comprises supplying the steam to the sealed space to recover the air pressure therein so as to force the liquid out of the sealed space through the outlet and the step (1.2) and the step (1.3) are repeated according to a specified requirement.

2. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 1, wherein said liquid is water or water solution in which said volatile substances and soluble substances dissolves and said sealed space comprises an intermediate material layer with a variable thickness for the material, a hollow upper layer, a hollow lower layer and a separation web plate to isolate the intermediate material layer from the lower layer.

3. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 1, wherein a steam with high temperature in the step (1.1) is forced into the upper layer of the sealed space, goes through pore spaces of the material in the intermediate material layer, distill the material, enters into the lower layer together with the volatile substances, and then is forced out through the outlet.

4. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 1, wherein a period of time for one distillation and absorption may be set for 0.3 to 10 minutes and a period of time for one immersion may be set for 0.3 to 8 minutes.

5. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 1, wherein the specified requirement in the step (1.3) refers to ending the step (1.3) when the number of repeat times is more than that of the predetermined times which is equal to or more than two, otherwise redoing the step (1.1) and the step (1.2).

6. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 1, wherein the specified requirement in the step (1.3) refers to ending the step (1.3) when the material for liquid preparation is found to primarily release the volatile and soluble substances and when the volatile and soluble substances are dissolved and absorbed in the liquid, otherwise redoing the step (1.1) and the step (1.2).

7. **(Canceled)**

8. **(Currently amended)** A device for preparing a liquid that comprises volatile and soluble substances comprising:

a steam generator for generating steam with high temperature comprising a housing, a heater inside the housing, a water level controller at the upper portion of the housing, a sealing cap for a water fill inlet and a pressure valve;

a material chamber for holding the material comprising a sealing cap, an outlet pipe at the bottom thereof, and a separation web plate;

an intermediate switch valve connected between the steam generator and the material chamber, which is used for controlling entry of the steam with high temperature into the material chamber;

a liquid container for holding the water in which the volatile and soluble substances are dissolved and absorbed, into which the outlet pipe extends;

The device of claim 7, further comprising a bypass return pipe, wherein one end thereof is connected to the outlet pipe and the other end thereof is connected to the upper portion of the material chamber[.];

a one-way valve connected between the outlet pipe and the material chamber[.];
and

a one-way valve connected between the bypass return pipe and the material chamber.

9. **(Currently amended)** A device for preparing a liquid that comprises volatile and soluble substances comprising:

a steam generator for generating steam with high temperature comprising a housing, a heater inside the housing, a water level controller at the upper portion of the housing, a sealing cap for a water fill inlet, a pressure valve, The device of claim 7,
~~wherein the steam generator further comprises a water intake device (WID), a water intake switch (WIS) and the water level controller, the intermediate switch valve, the heater~~
an electric circuit (EC) for testing and controlling water intake;

a material chamber for holding the material comprising a sealing cap, an outlet pipe at the bottom thereof, and a separation web plate;

an intermediate switch valve connected between the steam generator and the material chamber, which is used for controlling entry of the steam with high temperature into the material chamber; and

a liquid container for holding the water in which the volatile and soluble substances are dissolved and absorbed, into which the outlet pipe extends.

10. **(Currently amended)** The device of claim 9, wherein the device is a device for preparing a medicinal ~~traditional Chinese medicine~~ liquid.

11. **(Original)** The device of claim 9, wherein the device is a device for preparing medicated bath liquid.

12. **(Original)** The device of claim 9, wherein the device is a cooking device for preparing soup.

13. **(Original)** The device of claim 9, wherein the device is a device for preparing beverage for drinking.

14. **(Currently amended)** The device of claim 8, wherein the steam generator further comprises a water intake device (WID), a water intake switch (WIS), ~~the water level controller, the intermediate switch valve, the heater~~ and an electric circuit (EC) for testing and controlling water intake.

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15. **(Currently amended)** The device of claim 14, wherein the device is a device for preparing a medicinal ~~traditional Chinese medicine~~ liquid.

16. **(Previously presented)** The device of claim 14, wherein the device is a device for preparing medicated bath liquid.

17. **(Previously presented)** The device of claim 14, wherein the device is a device for preparing soup.

18. **(Previously presented)** The device of claim 14, wherein the device is a device for preparing beverage for drinking.

19. **(New)** The device of Claim 8 or 9, wherein said sealing cap for said water fill inlet is at the top of the steam generator.

20. **(New)** The device of Claim 8 or 9, wherein said pressure valve is at the top of the steam generator.

21. **(New)** The device of Claim 8 or 9, wherein said sealing cap on said material chamber is on top of the material chamber.